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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Alan Brett Conley, et al.) Confirmation No.: 8040
Serial No.: 10/676,423) Examiner: NYA
Filed on: September 30, 2003) Group Art Unit No.: 2171

For: AUTOMATICALLY GENERATING REPLICATION TOPOLOGY INFORMATION
FOR USE BY A DIRECTORY SERVICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The references were cited during the prosecution of the parent application, serial number 09/886,851. Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 and it is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

X 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes one of the following:

_____ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

_____ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following:

_____ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

_____ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

AND

_____ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

(1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: February 4, 2004

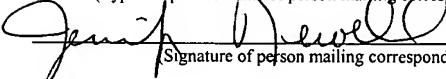
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION
(PTO-1449)



ATTY. DOCKET NO.
50325-0821

SERIAL NO.
10/676,423

APPLICANT:
Alan Brett Conley, et al.

FILING DATE:
September 30, 2003

GROUP:
2171

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (If known)			
		4,853,843		Ecklund	08-01-1989	
		5,276,789		Besaw et al.	01-04-1994	
		5,452,415		Hotka	09-19-1995	
		5,471,399		Tanaka et al.	11-28-1995	
		5,483,631		Nagai et al.	01-09-1996	
		5,515,487		Beaudet et al.	05-07-1996	
		5,559,955		Dev et al.	09-24-1996	
		5,751,962		Fanshier et al.	05-12-2998	
		5,751,965		Mayo et al.	05-12-1998	
		5,850,526		Chou	12-15-1998	
		5,872,786		Shobatake	02-16-1999	
		5,968,121		Logan et al.	10-19-1999	
		6,040,834		Jain et al.	03-21-2000	
		6,225,999		Jain et al.	05-01-2001	
		2002/0065941		Kaan et al.	05-30-2002	
		6,442,602		Choudhry	08-27-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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